

RTA Legislation: HB 5731, HB 5732 and HB 5733

> SEMCOG COMMENTS

## RTA Consistent with SEMCOG Plan

- SEMCOG recently adopted DIRECTION2035 which supports the development of RTA
- Key to continuing and expanding transit in Southeast Michigan

# RTA Legislation Must Address

- Single voice for transit
- Opt In/Out Issue
- Voting Structure
- Funding

### A Single Voice on Transit in Southeast Michigan

- Speaks on behalf of transit in SEM
- Develops/coordinates transit plans
- Implements plans/sets priority
- Establishes relationship with state and feds for funding
- Operates projects like commuter rail

## **Opt In/Opt Out**

- Transit needs to be efficient and as inexpensive as possible
- There are transit needs throughout the region
- Many communities will be in only if everyone is in
- Entire region should be in or let's not do this

#### **Voting Structure**

- Current RTCC requires all vote yes
  - Stops anything from happening
  - Allows minority decisions to be made
  - Makes it difficult to address difficult issues
- Structure should
  - Encourage collaboration
  - Possible supermajority for some issues

### **Funding**

- Plans are nice but if no additional funding is coming – we are wasting our time
- Need long-term source of capital, operating, and administrative dollars
- Raise local funding

SEMCOG believes RTA legislation is vital to our region.

We stand ready to assist the Legislature in any way possible as these bills move through the legislative process.

